



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Public Library

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TO HELL AND BACK: THE LEGEND OF ORPHEUS & EURYDICE *San Diego Public Library Launches “Mythology Talk” Series*

San Diego, CA. The San Diego Public Library will launch an occasional series entitled MYTHOLOGY TALK exploring the founding myths, epics and stories of peoples and nations and the relevance of these to life in the 21st century on Wednesday, January 27 at 6:30 p.m. in the Wangenheim Room of the Central Library located at 820 E Street. The series is designed as a fun opportunity to explore how myth resonates in everyday life and invigorates culture. The first ‘mythology talk’, *To Hell and Back: The Legend of Orpheus & Eurydice*, is on the story of Orpheus and Eurydice. This free event is open to the public.

Orpheus is the hero who brought music to the world and whose mastery of music inspires creativity among humans. Given the gift of songs by the gods, the legendary figure of Orpheus is venerated as a chief among poets and musicians whose music and singing could charm wildlife, coax the trees and rocks into dance, and even divert the course of rivers. He uses his talent to soften the hearts of Hades and Persephone, lords of the Underworld, to rescue his dead wife Eurydice back to the world of the living.

Join Dr. Charles Chamberlain of the Classics Department at UCSD in a discussion of the classic legend and how it confirms the foundational role of music in both the creation and permanence of human society. A brief text and explanation of the legend of Orpheus can be found at <http://homepage.mac.com/cparada/GML/Orpheus.html>.

Learn about other events at the San Diego Public Library’s Central Library and 35 branches, find links to numerous additional resources, or search for materials in the Library’s catalog online at www.sandiegolibrary.org.

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